

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Ex Parte No. 431 (Sub-No. 3)

REVIEW OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD'S
GENERAL PURPOSE COSTING SYSTEM¹

Decided: April 24, 2009

The Board will hold a public hearing to allow interested persons to comment on issues related to the Board's Uniform Railroad Costing System, on Thursday, April 30, 2009, in the 1st floor hearing room at the Board's headquarters at 395 E Street, S.W., Washington, DC. The hearing will begin at 9:00 a.m.

The Board announced the hearing by notice served on April 6, 2009, and established due dates for persons wishing to speak at the hearing to advise the Board of their intent to participate and request a time allotment. Based on those submissions, the Board is issuing this decision to set the schedule of speakers for the hearing.

The schedule of appearances and the time provided for each party appear in the Appendix to this decision. Written submissions by hearing participants, as well as other interested persons, were due by April 23, 2009. Because the Board will have read the written submissions in advance of the hearing, witnesses should not read their written submissions at the hearing, but instead should summarize their key points.

If a party wishes to enhance its presentation by using projector-adaptable visual displays and/or handouts, it may do so. Staff will be available to demonstrate the hearing room's projection system on April 29, 2009, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Please call (202) 245-0245, to make arrangements.

Instructions for Attendance at Hearing

The STB requests that all persons attending the hearing use the Patriots Plaza Building's main entrance at 395 E Street, S.W. (closest to the northeast corner of the intersection of 4th and E Streets). There will be no reserved seating, except for witnesses. The building will be open to the public at 7:00 a.m. and participants are encouraged to arrive early. There is no public parking in the building.

¹ A previous notice in this proceeding inadvertently omitted the word "Purpose" from the case title.

Upon arrival, check in at the 1st floor security desk in the main lobby. Be prepared to produce valid photographic identification (driver's license or local, state, or federal-government identification); sign-in at the security desk; receive a hearing room pass (to be displayed at all times); submit to an inspection of all briefcases, handbags, etc.; then pass through a metal detector. Upon entering the hearing room, witnesses should check in with the Board's Acting Secretary. Persons choosing to exit the building during the course of the hearing must surrender their hearing room passes to security personnel and will be subject to the above security procedures if they choose to re-enter the building. Hearing room passes likewise will be collected from those exiting the hearing upon its conclusion.

Laptops and recorders may be used in the hearing room, but no provision will be made for connecting personal computers to the Internet. Cellular telephone use is not permitted in the hearing room; cell phones may be used quietly in the corridor surrounding the hearing room, or in the building's main lobby.

The Board's hearing room complies with the Americans With Disabilities Act, and persons needing such accommodations should call (202) 245-0245, by the close of business on April 29, 2009.

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:

1. Time for the hearing is allotted as reflected in the Appendix to this decision.
2. This decision is effective on the date of service.

By the Board, Anne K. Quinlan, Acting Secretary.

Anne K. Quinlan
Acting Secretary

APPENDIX

SCHEDULE OF APPEARANCES

April 30, 2009

<u>Party</u>	<u>Time Allotted</u>
Panel I: Shipper Interests	
Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation Steve Sharp	10 minutes
Interested Associations Tom O'Connor	15 minutes
Wheat and Barley Commissions Gerald W. Fauth III	15 minutes
Panel II: Freight Railroads	
Association of American Railroads Edward R. Hamberger	10 minutes
BNSF Railway Company Richard E. Weicher	10 minutes
Panel III: Other Interested Persons	
C. Gregory Breskin	10 minutes
Robert H. Leilich	10 minutes
George Avery Grimes	10 minutes
Highroad Consulting, Ltd. Sandra J. Dearden	10 minutes